

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

B-
Survey No. 4731

1. Name

Historic 404 - 426 South Dallas Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 404 - 426 South Dallas Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21231 county

3. Classification

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | X occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| X building(s) | X private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational | X private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | X yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check One

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check One

☒ original site
☐ moved:
date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The west side of the 400 block of S. Dallas St. is built up with different groups of gable-roofed houses, dating from 1817 to the 1850s.

400 - 404 and 406 - 412 S. Dallas St. are two groups of early two-story brick houses with low-pitched gable roofs that were built between 1815 and 1820. Although they resemble the later houses with low-pitched gable roofs so characteristic of the small street houses built for working class residents in the 1850s and 1860s, these houses are only one-room deep, with a narrow rear kitchen addition. 400 - 404 are 11' wide and occupy lots 37' deep; 406 - 412 are 12' and occupy lots 75' deep. Both groups of houses are built in common bond, which was always painted. The low-pitched gable roofs have simple corbelled brick cornices. At 400 - 404 door and window openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, composed of a double row of headers, and wood sills. The windows are filled with 6/6 replacement sash. Doorways have single-light transoms, but that at 400 has been covered over and that at 404 has been "restored" to a three-light transom. 402 and 404 have modern six-panel doors, 400 has a plain replacement door. The houses sit on low basements, the entrances being reached directly from the street. All splayed brick lintels; those on the second floor have no lintels. The sills are brick. The windows are filled with 1/1 replacement sash. Doorways have single-light transoms and replacement doors. The houses sit on low basements, the entrances being reached by one or two concrete or brick steps.

At 406 - 412 S. Dallas St. door and window openings have splayed brick lintels and wood sills. The windows are filled with 6/6 replacement sash. At 406 the first floor has been converted into a garage and at 410 and 412 the first floor openings are now filled with 10-light, full-length windows and second floor openings are filled with modern 6-light casement windows. The four units have been combined into one residence. The one remaining door, at 408, is a modern six-panel door. The doorway has no transom. The houses sit on low basements, the entrances being reached directly from the street.

414, 418 - 420, and 422 S. Dallas St. are two-bay-wide, two-story-and-attic brick houses typical of a popular type of Baltimore rowhouse built in the late 1840s and early 1850s to serve the city's growing working class population. The lower-pitched gable roof allowed for a more spacious upper story, which now could be lit by small rectangular windows at both the front and rear of the house, instead of the earlier dormer windows. Despite its practical nature, this new feature had its roots in a stylistic change in Baltimore's fashionable housing, the small "attic" windows being an important part of the façade design of much larger town mansions being built in the new Greek Revival style.

Continuation sheet

The houses are two-and-a-half stories in height, 14' wide and occupy lots 75' deep. Each house has a one-story brick rear kitchen addition somewhat narrower than the house. The houses are constructed in running bond, and were always painted. The low-pitched gable roof has a simple corbelled brick cornice. The roofs are covered with modern asphalt shingles overtop the original cedar shakes. A double chimney located at the peak of the gable roof serves both the front and rear rooms. Each house also has a chimney at the rear of the kitchen addition. Because early house lots in Baltimore were laid out back to back, without rear service alleys, the service entrance to the backyards is through the flat-linteled sallyport located between 418 - 420 and on the south side of 422.

At 414 the door and window openings have segmentally-arched brick lintels, with plain tympanums, and wood sills. 418 - 422 have splayed brick lintels and wood sills. All window openings are filled with 1/1 replacement sash. All of the original doors have been replaced with a variety of replacement door types set beneath single light transoms. At 414, part of the residence that includes 406 - 412 S. Dallas St., the door matches that of the adjoining houses, being a full-length, multi-paned glass door. The houses sit on low basements, the entrances being reached by two or three concrete steps.

The houses are two rooms deep, with the front room being entered directly from the front door. The front and back rooms of the first floor are separated by a wide opening, with the tightly winding, narrow stairs set in the rear room, in the space between the partition wall and the fireplace. There are two bedrooms on the second floor of the main part of the house, each with a fireplace. The third floor attic rooms have low sloping ceilings, with a maximum ceiling height of about seven feet at the peak of the gable sloping down to about four feet at the front and rear of the house. The one-story rear addition served as the kitchen, with its own cooking fireplace.

424 - 428 S. Dallas St. are a group of three two-story brick houses with the low-pitched gable roof so characteristic of the small street houses built for working class residents in the 1850s and 1860s. They are 11'6" wide and occupy lots 75' deep. The houses are built in common bond, which was always painted. The low-pitched gable roofs have simple corbelled brick cornices. Door and window openings have splayed brick lintels and wood sills. The windows are filled with 1/1 replacement sash. Two of the houses have modern six-panel doors; the other house is in the process of being renovated and the doorway is boarded over. The doorways have no transoms. The houses sit on medium-height basements, the entrances being reached by three brick, marble, or wooden steps.

The houses are two rooms deep, with the front room being entered directly from the front door. The front and back rooms of the first floor are separated by a wide opening, with the tightly winding, narrow stairs set in the rear room, in the space between the partition wall and the fireplace. The one-story rear addition served as the kitchen, with its own cooking fireplace.

Maryland Historical Trust**Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**

Survey No. B-4731

8. Significance

| Period | Area of significance | check one & justify | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theatre | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900 | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: specify | |

Specific dates c. 1815 - 1855**Builder/Architect**

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

400 - 412 S. Dallas St. are significant as being representative of an early form of Federal-period two-story house built in small rows to provide inexpensive housing for the city's working class population. They are only one-room deep and lack the dormer story of the more typical Federal-period house. Insurance records at the Baltimore Equitable Society date these houses to 1815 - 1820. When they were built they were rental properties for their investor owners.

These particular houses were built at a time when Fells Point was already an important ship building center for the growing town of Baltimore. Early occupants included people involved in the maritime trades, small-scale craftsmen, and laborers who made their homes in the smaller scale and more affordable housing located on the small "alley" streets of Fells Point. Until about 1850 Dallas Street was known as Strawberry Alley and its occupants were racially mixed.

414 and 418 - 422 S. Dallas St. are significant as being representative of a large group of such houses built in the 1840s and 1850s to accommodate the growing labor force centered around the Baltimore waterfront and in the emerging industrial districts of Canton and southwest Baltimore. Although showing stylistic influences from Greek Revival style buildings constructed in Baltimore in the 1830s and 1840s (in the proportions of the attic windows, the chaste exterior details, and the double parlor floor plan), the outstanding feature of these houses is their extreme simplicity of design and detailing. They are practical adaptations of a current mode of building, designed to meet the need for efficient, low-cost housing for a growing working class community. The floor plan is essentially the same as that of the earlier Federal-style two-and-a-half story houses, but the opening between the two rooms is wider, reflecting popular Greek Revival tastes. The increase in height of the third story (from a dormer story to an attic story) allowed the third story to be divided into two separate rooms, in place of the one open room of the dormer story, thus providing welcome additional private living space to large families or those who had to take in boarders. The houses do not differ markedly from similar two-story-and-attic houses built on nearby main streets—they are simply somewhat narrower versions priced to serve less affluent residents of the old walking city.

424 - 428 S. Dallas St. are significant as representing an even more modest form of small street house built in the 1850s and 1860s to accommodate the large numbers of workers moving to the area to work both on the waterfront and in the small factories springing up in upper Fells Point and Canton.

Both groups of houses are especially significant as being located in the oldest part of Fells Point, only a few blocks from the water, and represent an integral part of the history of this National Register district. Nearby houses were slated for demolition in the 1960s as part of the planned East-West highway connection existing segments of I-95 to the north and south of the city, but were saved by local preservation activists who created the Fells Point National Register District in 1969.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. ^{B-} 4731

9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

city, town Baltimore

date June 2000

telephone

state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of rights.

Return to:

DHCP/DHCD

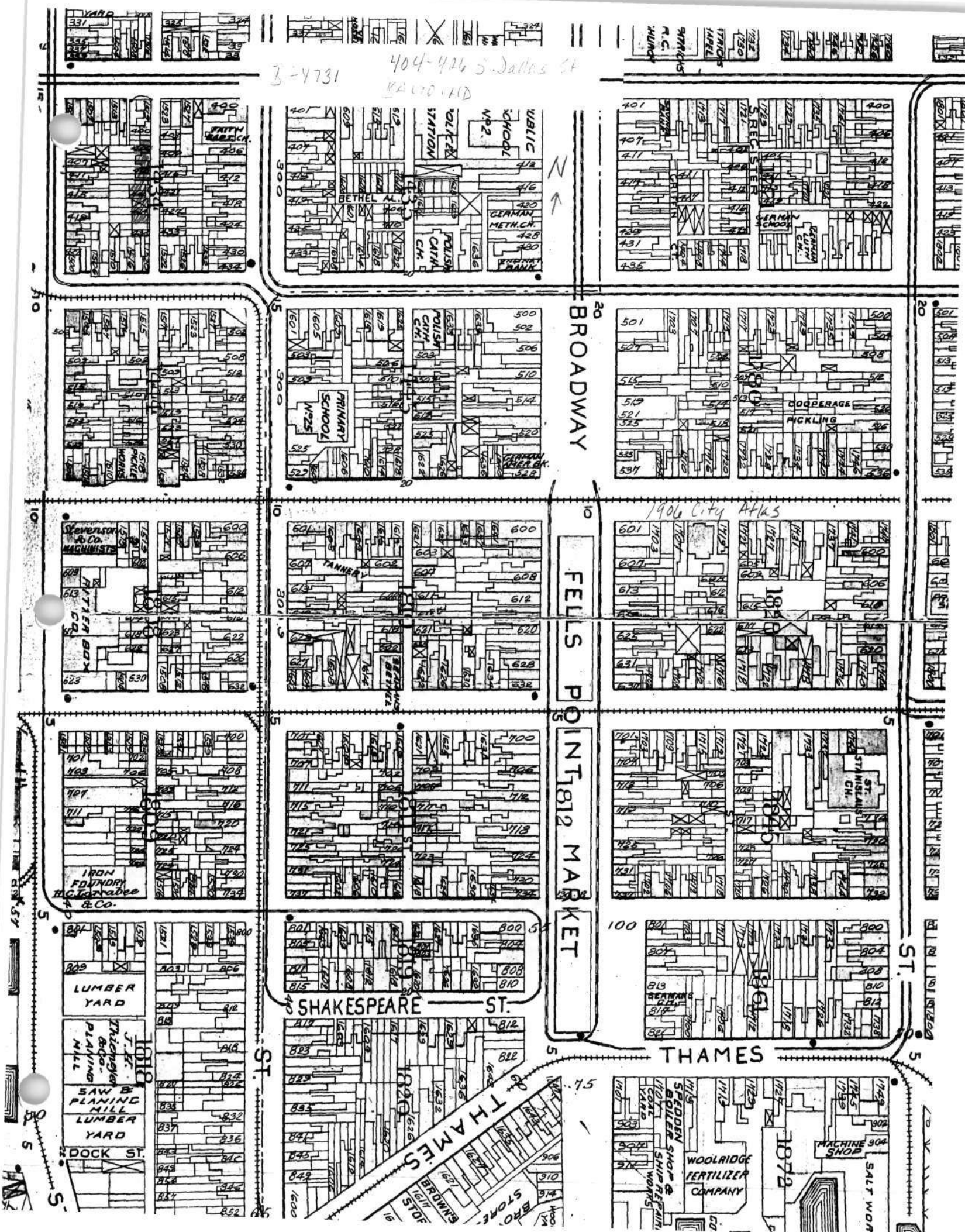
Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville MD 21032-2023

3-4731

404-426 S. Dallas St
K2 170 110



BROADWAY

FELS POINT
1812 MARKET

SHAKESPEARE ST.

THAMES

ST.

THAMES
BROWN ST
DOCK ST

DOCK ST
LUMBER YARD
J. E. C.
SAW & PLANING MILL
LUMBER YARD

WOOLRIDGE FERTILIZER COMPANY
SALT WORKS
MACHINE SHOP
SPEEDEN SHOP & BOILER SHIP REPAIR

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

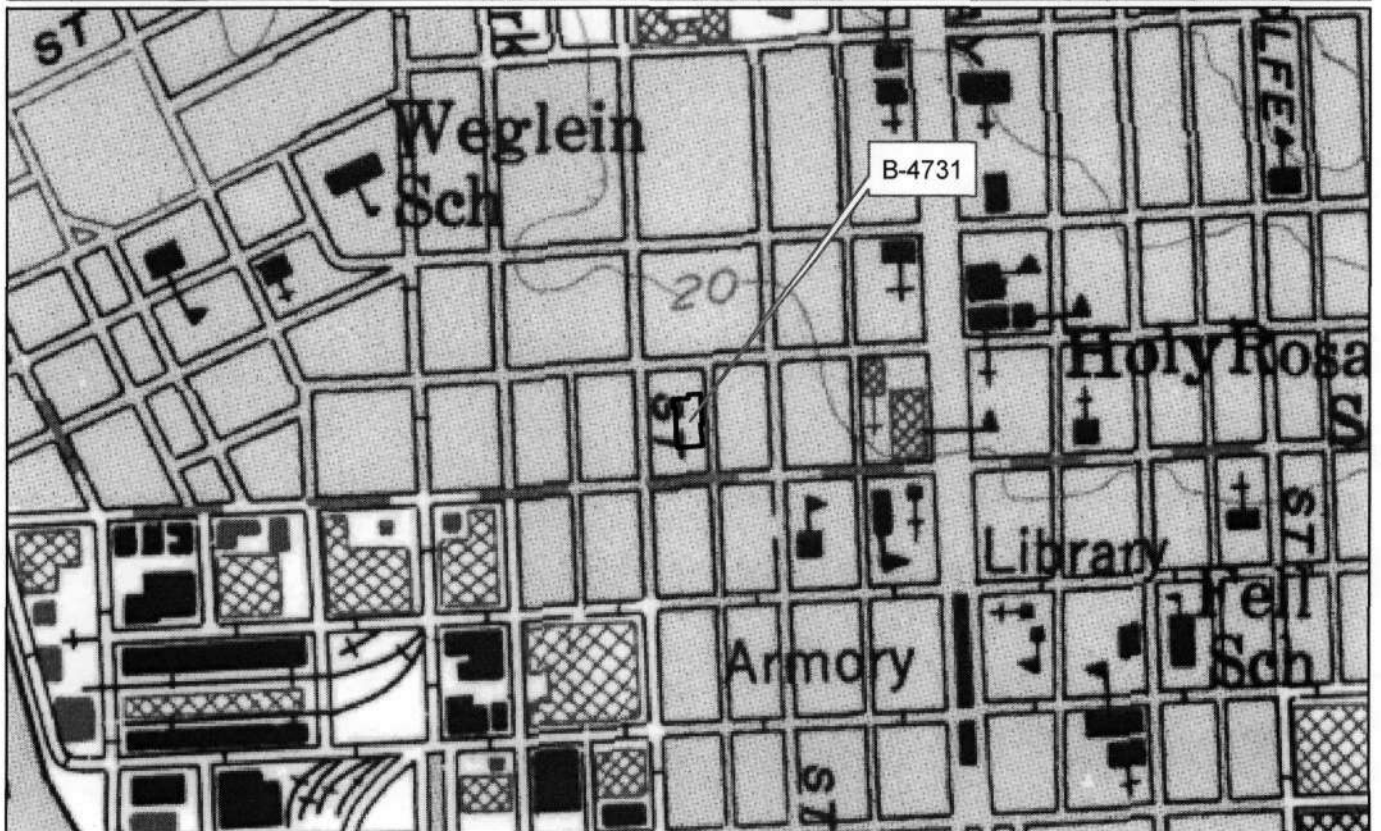
IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

IRON FOUNDRY
H. C. TAYLOR & CO.

B-4731
404-426 S. Dallas Street
Block 1434 Lots 085-074
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





400-404 Dallas

B-4731

404-428 S. Dallas St

BAuto. MD

C. Belfrage

11/47

MD SAPO

1/5

100

[30]401 0211 14 14 14



404 Dallas

B-4731

404 S. Dallas St.

BACTO.MD

C. Belfrage

11/97

2/5

1295401 021 1 N K R 1 2



B-4731

404-428 S. Dallas St.

[414-422]

L.A. TO. MD

C. Belfrage

11/47

3/5

104 S. Dallas

MD

[26]401 [32] 1



424-428 S. Dallas

B-4231

404-428 S. Dallas St

[424-428]

BALTO. MD

C. Belfrage

11/97

7/5

100

[253401 0211] [a - p 52]



426 S. Dallas

J-4731

426 S. Dallas St.

BALTO. MD

C. Belfrage

11/97

100

[24]4.31 0211

5/5